

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application. New claim 24 has been added by this amendment. Therefore, claims 1-24 are at issue.

This preliminary amendment adds no new matter. Claim 1 has been amended to insert a definition for the R^1 and R^2 groups, and to improve the form of the claims. The definitions for R^1 and R^2 can be found in U.S. Patent No. 5,859,006 (incorporated into the present application by reference at page 9, lines 15-18 of the specification) at column 7, lines 20-53 and in the Abstract, for example. Claim 16 has been similarly amended to insert definitions for R^1 and R^3 . The dependency of claim 22 has been corrected, and new claim 24 has been added to the application. Claim 24 finds support in original claim 22.

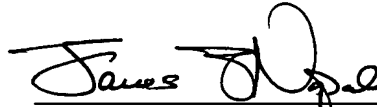
It is submitted that the claims are in proper form and scope for entry and allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, the examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James J. Napoli", is written over a horizontal line.

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